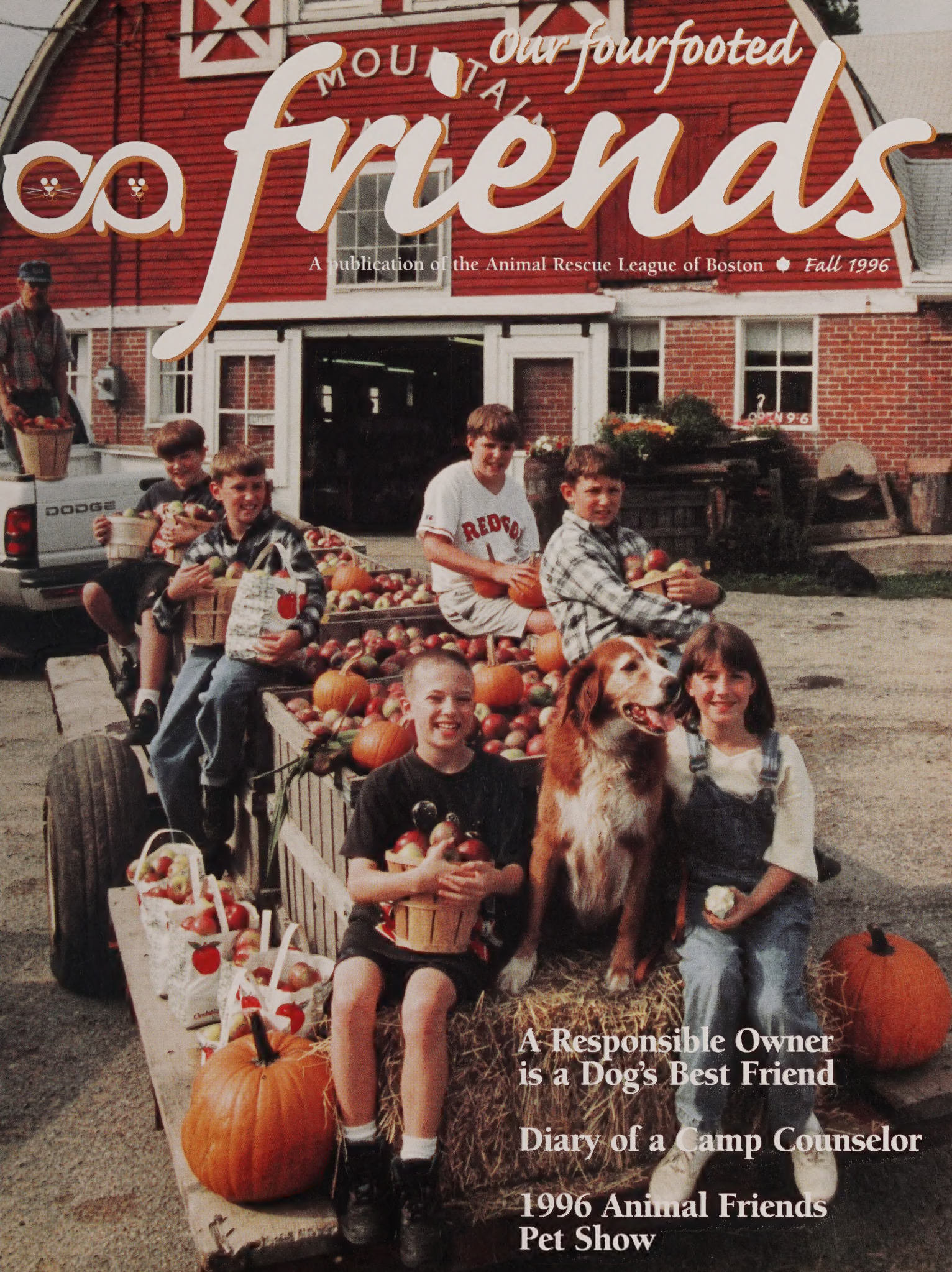
Our fourfooted
friends
A publication of the Animal Rescue League of Boston • Fall 1996
A Responsible Owner is a Dog's Best Friend
Diary of a Camp Counselor
1996 Animal Friends Pet Show

Our fourfooted friends

Volume 93, No. 3 • Fall 1996

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On the Cover

Thank you to the Gilmore family at Fay Mountain Orchards, Charlton, MA. Also thanks to the Booker family for posing with "Maggie."

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Our fourfooted friends

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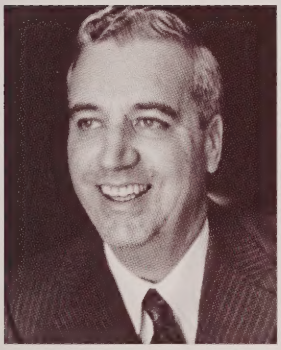
A Message from the President

Vote Yes on Question 1



Arthur G. Slade
President

There is an important and compelling reason for all registered voters in Massachusetts to turn out at the polls on Election Day on November 5, 1996.

In addition to having the opportunity to vote for various political candidates, you will have the rare and rewarding chance to vote for the humane treatment of animals by casting a YES vote on Referendum Question Number One. A landslide vote in favor of this question will send a loud and clear message from the voters of this Commonwealth that we will not tolerate the use of the cruel steel jaw leghold trap, padded or not.

A successful vote on this question, especially an overwhelming one, will have a long and far-reaching impact on the elimination of these traps not just here in Massachusetts, but in many other places as well. We have a real opportunity to set a precedent that can be cited by other jurisdictions that seek to eliminate the cruel abuses of leghold traps.

To be successful in this campaign, however, we must remain focused on the main point and not allow the opposition to cloud the issue. Keep in mind that the central issue is whether the steel jaw leghold trap, padded or not, is a cruel device as defined under the trapping laws in Massachusetts. The centerpiece of Massachusetts law on this subject sets the following humane standard for all outdoor trapping: "A trap used in Massachusetts must capture an animal alive and unharmed or kill an animal quickly."

The hard and simple truth is that steel jaw leghold traps, padded or not, neither capture an animal alive and unharmed nor kill it quickly.

Some critics claim that a vote to support Question One will bring about the outlawing of hunting and fishing. Some say it will create a host of other problems for wildlife and wildlife management. Such claims are untrue and unwarranted and portray the minds of frantic people making wild and untrue claims to retain the use of a vicious and unholy, cruel device.

Remember, the question is a simple one and it relates solely to the fact that these traps do not capture an animal alive and unharmed or kill an animal quickly.

We need to abolish the use of such traps by voting in favor of the referendum. **Vote YES on Question One in November!**

Rescue News

Animal Rescue League of Boston agent Lina Cabrera and League veterinarian Dr. Cheryl Cullion tend to an injured Canada Goose who was tangled in discarded fishing line.

This issue of Our fourfooted friends introduces "Rescue News." League agents are on the road daily giving aid and comfort to countless animals who have been injured, threatened, or surrendered by an owner who can no longer care for them. Rescue is our middle name and we want to share the efforts of our dedicated employees with our readers. This issue, we present "Be Careful What You Fish For"...

Recently, a concerned citizen from Woburn called the League regarding an injured Canada Goose spotted at the city's Horn Pond. Lina Cabrera responded to the early evening call and found the goose tangled in fishing line. She was able to approach the bird, pick it up, and safely transport it back to League headquarters. Dr. Cheryl Cullion examined the goose and was able to free it from the fising line which had caused deep cuts in the bird's legs. The goose was held for observation and then returned to the pond. Not all animals trapped in fishing line are so lucky.

Littering doesn't just destroy our environment, it can also be a matter of life and death for wildlife. All animals, birds in particular, suffer needlessly when they encounter trash carelessly left behind; the waste can ultimately injure, maim, and/or kill animals. The Animal Rescue League of Boston asks the public to take an extra moment to dispose of waste properly for the sake of all animals.

Fishermen are asked to carefully dispose of fishing line and hooks so as not to endanger birds and other wildlife. The League rescues numerous animals each year who become entangled in fishing line or embedded with sharp hooks. Fishing line can trap an animal, forcing it to starve to death or causing painful injury, while hooks can be swallowed in a quest for food. These incidents can easily be prevented.

Plastic rings from six-pack cans and other seemingly harmless trash can also be quite dangerous. An animal can become trapped, choke, or even hang itself. All circles should be cut out of the rings prior to disposal. For more information on protecting animals, or to receive a free copy of the League's brochure, "Be Careful What You Fish For," please call (617) 426-9170.

A Veterinary UPDATE

by Bosmat Gal, D.V. M.

Understanding Pet Food Labels

Are you concerned about the ingredients in your pet's diet?

A 1995 survey of veterinarians conducted by the American Animal Hospital Association revealed that 54 percent of pet owners have sought a veterinarian's advice on pet food at least once. Ingredients are listed on pet food labels in order of weight, so the first several ingredients make up the bulk of the food. These commonly include sources of all three meganutrients: protein, carbohydrates and fat.

Protein Pet food should contain multiple protein sources. Since dogs and cats are carnivores, animal based sources are preferable because they supply a broad range of amino acids. However, some plant sources also supply significant amounts of protein (wheat or corn germ, soy meal, whey, brewer's yeast, etc.). Meat by-products may have a bad reputation if the less digestible ingredients such as poultry feet and heads are used. Internal organs can supply excellent nutrition. Many people consider soy products a common cause of food allergies in pets, but canine studies published in several journals found that beef, dairy products and wheat accounted for 60 percent of the skin allergies seen. Another 17 percent of the reactions were caused by chicken, egg, lamb, pork, or soy. Corn and food additives rarely cause adverse reaction in dogs. Feline studies found that 85 percent of skin allergies were caused by beef, dairy products and fish. Often what seems to be a food allergy may just be intolerance when an animal is unable to properly digest a food.

Fats and Fatty Acids Fat provides concentrated energy, essential fatty acids, and fat-soluble vitamins. The best ratio of fatty acids in the diet is still not established. Some manufacturers have started adding sources of Omega-3 fatty acids such as fish or flax oil to their foods. There are some indications from research that Omega-3 fatty acids may be beneficial under certain conditions, such as allergic skin problems, by blunting the immune system. However, blunting the immune system may be harmful at other times, such as when a puppy is vaccinated.

Carbohydrates Carbohydrates provide energy and fiber in the diet. The amount of fiber is important in the management of stool bulk. Many "light" diets include large amounts of fiber to decrease the caloric density of the food, allowing the pet to eat the same volume of food, yet take in fewer calories. Will your pet still be hungry because his calorie intake is going to be lower? He might not have the same sense of satisfaction. So a better way to lower caloric density is to reduce the fat content. What is recommended is to examine "light" products carefully, since there is no standard definition of a light food. A light food of one brand could provide more fat and calories than a non-light food of another brand.

Vitamins and Minerals Additional ingredients include vitamins, minerals, preservatives and additives to retain color, combat bacterial growth, improve flavor, or control texture. Vitamins added to a food must be listed by their chemical names, which sometimes causes confusion. Some people mistake vitamins for preservatives. However, labeling regulations require that all preservatives be clearly identified. Minerals, which are essential to a complete diet, are the main component of ash. Individual ingredients are not as important as a food's total nutrition profile and digestibility. Pet food labels provide only enough information to stimulate your appetite. In fact, several veterinarians concur that the most valuable information on the label is the manufacturer's address and phone number.

News from

"Rock for Rover" Grrrrraises funds for League's Brewster Shelter. Lynda Brogden, Brewster shelter manager, and Assistant Manager Sandra Luppi (second and third from right) are happy to accept a check for $900 raised at the event. Check presenters include benefit organizers (left to right) Kiki Marcos, Joe Yukna, and Dennis Marcos.

"Rock for Rover"

The Second Annual "Rock for Rover" was held recently at Cape Cod's Ye Old Sandwich Tavern. Event Co-Founders Christine "Kiki" Marcos and Joe "The Dogman" Yukna once again hosted a fun-filled musical evening to benefit our fourfooted friends. The special reunion appearance of "Rich Marcos and The Underground Cats" raised the roof as well as funds for the League's Brewster Shelter, M.S.P.C.A. of Centerville, and Friends of Falmouth Dogs. League President Arthur Slade praised and thanked organizers by saying, "With your help, these lost, stray, abandoned, or otherwise homeless animals can receive the food, shelter, and veterinary services they need." We're all looking forward to next summer's Rock for Rover III!

Holiday Dinner

The League will be hosting the 83rd annual Holiday Dinner for Horses on Tuesday, December 17, 1996. Please join us at 11:00 a.m. at Faneuil Hall for this traditional "Thank you" to Boston's fourfooted police officers. Members of the Boston Mounted Police Unit and Boston Park Rangers will be invited to a breakfast of oats and carrots as we honor them for another year of dedicated service. Call the League for more details or Rena Bly at ext. 126 to volunteer for breakfast duty.

Volunteer Corner

Greetings from the volunteer office! After months of preparation, the volunteer program is scheduled to take off at the beginning of October. I am excited to report that there have been a tremendous amount of applications for the program. If you are interested in volunteering your time to the Animal Rescue League of Boston, please call me (Rena Bly) at (617) 426-9170, ext. 126, for further information. Volunteer opportunities are available at all four shelter locations.

Upcoming events needing volunteer assistance:

Petoberfest: October 26 and 27

Pet Photos with Santa: December 7

Annual Holiday Dinner for Horses: December 17

Senior Humane Educator and Animal Behavior Specialist Alan Cunningham gives the "stay" command to his mindful charges, "Kory" and "Jenny."

Dog Obedience Classes to be offered at the League

Does your dog have a behavior problem? Do you want to train and socialize your puppy before problems arise? We all know that our pets are special. Their own behaviors define their personalities and endear them to us. Some behavior may not be so endearing to others whether they be family members or strangers. A course in dog obedience may be helpful to you as well as your pet! Alan Cunningham has planned an eight-week course to assist you and your family with training and socializing your pet. Learn why our animals behave the way they do as well as why and how they react to situations. Alan has spent over ten years at the League and has a vast knowledge of animal behavior. In fact, he may have even spoken to you regarding individual behavior problems you may have or had with your pets. The initial classes will begin November 2 in the League's auditorium at Boston headquarters. For class times, fees, and additional information, call Alan Cunningham at (617) 426-9170, ext. 103.

Pet Photos with Santa

Are visions of dog toys and cat nip dancing in the heads of your animal friends? Santa checks his list twice not only for boys and girls who are naughty and nice, but also for our family pets! Of course you all know that Santa understands every language—including pet speak! Why not bring your family pets to the League's Pet Photos with Santa so they can whisper their special requests in his listening ear? Join us on Saturday, December 2, in the auditorium at the League's Boston headquarters at 10 Chandler Street. Photos of your pets with Santa will be taken for a donation of $5.00 per photo. The event begins at 10:00 a.m. Please make sure your dogs are leashed and cats as well as other small animals are in carriers. If you would like to volunteer to work at the event, please call Rena Bly at (617) 426-9170, ext. 126.

Book Review

Elephant Calling

By Katharine Payne

Get a glimpse of one of our largest fourfooted friends in this adventure-packed, educational children's book. Go to Africa and meet Raoul, a spunky baby elephant. See how Raoul interacts with his extended family. Learn why Raoul's grandmother knows best and why Raoul must listen closely to her. Follow Raoul to a swamp, where he will meet with friends and get very muddy! See a rumble between two male elephants and be thrilled by a stampede of running, screaming elephants. At the end of the book, see an exhausted Raoul fall asleep in the beautiful acacia grove.

A Responsible Owner is a Dog's Best Friend

by Laurel Wellman

Lately, when you turn on the news it seems as though man's best friend isn't as friendly as he used to be. An alarming number of vicious attacks by dogs have been reported recently, including an incident involving a 1-year-old boy who was killed by a Rottweiler. In the city of Boston, 459 dogs were quarantined during the first half of 1996 for biting a person or another animal. What is causing the rise in the number of vicious dogs on the streets and what can we do to stop it and its effects on the reputation of man's best friend?

Bruce Billings, training director for Canine College in Holbrook, poses with two Rottweiler puppies who, with the proper care and training, will grow up to be wonderful pets.

Bruce Billings and his award-winning Rottweiler, "D.J.," are true companions.

It is important to recognize that any breed of dog poses a risk under the right circumstances. Dogs do not bite without a reason. Motives for a canine's attack include: a genetic predisposition for aggressive behavior, improper socialization with people in early stages of life, training for fighting or lack of obedience training, neglect, abuse or the actions of the victim prior to the attack. Therefore, the dog owner plays a large role in the creation of a vicious dog.

A vicious cycle is creating more vicious dogs. In recent years, more people have begun to look to dogs for protection rather than companionship. As different breeds have become popular, there has been a rush by inexperienced breeders to produce these guard dogs. The number of people who adopt these canines is also growing, despite their lack of education regarding the unique qualities and needs of a particular dog breed. Improper breeding, socialization and training have created overly aggressive dogs, which in turn attack people and develop a poor reputation for the entire breed. Others may choose to get a certain breed specifically because of their bad reputations. These people do not have the dog's best interest at heart and tend to treat the animals poorly which perpetuates the problem of vicious dogs.

Pit bulls and Rottweilers are the breeds receiving the most criticism today, partly because of the severity of their attacks rather than the frequency. However, the same vicious cycle made Dobermans, German Shepherds and other dog breeds unpopular in the past. "Just as one should not assume that any one breed is inherently mean or dangerous, nor should one assume that any one breed is inherently good, kind, good with children and strangers, etc.," states Alan Cunningham, Senior Training and Public Education Instructor for the Animal Rescue League of Boston. Each breed has its own unique characteristics, as well as varying temperaments within the breed. How the animal is raised and treated by its owner has a large effect on its disposition and temperament.

Pit bulls have become status symbols, especially for young boys in the city. Boasts of "I can beat you up" have changed to "My dog can beat up your dog." These dogs are trained to fight and then left unsupervised, making them a menace on the streets. Many of these juveniles and young adults obtained a pit bull simply to be one of the crowd, but love the dog and don't want to let it fight. Unfortunately, many will succumb to peer pressure and allow their pet to take part in one of these vicious fights. Many of the juveniles and young adults involved do

not realize dog fighting is a felony. Vicious dogs are also being used as weapons to commit other crimes. Both the persons who stage "professional" dog fights and those who engage in backyard dog fighting are subjecting the animals to unspeakable pain. Not only is the dog fight itself a potential death sentence for the animal, the practices used to train a dog for fighting are also inhumane.

Owners who train dogs for fighting, in most cases, do not care about the animal. "Anytime they have trouble with them they just abandon them," says Lieutenant Alan Borgal, Law Enforcement Coordinator for the Animal Rescue League of Boston. He adds, "They don't take care of them. Once the novelty wears off, they just tie them up in the backyard or the cellar and totally neglect them." Lieutenant Borgal stresses, "The League law enforcement department has seen an increase in the use of pit bull and Rottweiler type dogs for felony dog fighting which is of great concern to the League and is continually being investigated." If anyone has any information about incidents of dog fighting, they are asked to contact the Animal Rescue League of Boston law enforcement department at 617-426-9170.

The problem isn't simply the people who purposely make their dogs vicious. Many people keep dogs for protection but are ignorant as to the special needs of these high-maintenance animals. "What you see in the inner city is people who get dogs for the purpose of being a guard dog. This dog is tied outside or kept in the yard or the cellar. It has very little human contact except with the adults in the family, so when these dogs get loose they tend to bite children. They don't know what their territory is once they get outside," explains Lieutenant Borgal. Dogs are very territorial. According to Cunningham, if they are allowed only a limited amount of territory they will be extremely protective of it.

Playful puppies need lots of attention and training. Lieutenant Borgal says, "The average person never seeks out any training. There is no training, no discipline, there is no plan for when the dog becomes an adult. They purchase them as a watch dog and then the dog becomes out of control. Those are the types of dogs that end up biting."

Before choosing a dog, people need to research the breed they are considering and understand the amount of care and attention each animal will need. A person should also consider a breed's specific traits and determine if the animal will fit into their lifestyle. High-maintenance dogs, such as pit bulls and Rottweilers, will need a lot of attention, a firm hand, and a great deal of time spent on training. It is strongly recommended that persons without the time and energy to work with these dogs on an on-going basis choose a different breed.

Captain Thomas White, Director of Criminal Investigation and Legislative Services for the Animal Rescue League of Boston, owns three Rottweilers. He warns that owners of dogs with reputations for being aggressive should "take extra precautions. Remember that a lot of people are afraid of these dogs." He encourages owners to, "train these dogs properly, beginning with obedience training and then more advanced training. You need to limit their environment so that they don't have the full potential to become violent." Dog owners have the power to make the public feel safe or unsafe in their neighborhoods yet in most cases they are not held responsible for their dog's actions. If a dog attack is premeditated by the owner, a charge of Assault and Battery with a Lethal Weapon (the dog) can be

All responsible dog owners are encouraged to:

- Make food and plenty of fresh water available daily.
- Provide ample opportunities for exercise.
- Never allow the animal to roam freely: keep it in a spacious but enclosed area and always keep the dog on a leash when out for walks.
- Take the time to properly train and socialize the animal.
- Keep rabies and all other necessary vaccinations current.
- Have the animal spayed or neutered (neutered animals live longer and are often less aggressive.)
- License each dog through the local town hall.
- Learn about the specific breed that you own, preferably prior to adopting it.
- Know the animal's behavioral history before adoption. (All animals adopted through the Animal Rescue League of Boston have been evaluated and found to have a friendly temperament.)
- Consult a veterinarian or animal behaviorist as soon as the animal exhibits aggressive tendencies. (Don't wait for a minor bite to become a major tragedy!)

As League Humane Educator, Rebecca Hutchinson and "Blue" demonstrate, all responsible dog owners must take time to train their pets.

imposed. More often, an attack or bite is considered unpremeditated (which could include dogs who are trained to fight but the particular incident wasn't premeditated.) These incidents fall under the Vicious & Barking Dog Laws, Chapter 140, Section 157. In these cases the injured party requests a hearing of the local selectman, police chief or county commissioner. As a result of the hearing, depending on the situation, the dog could be banished from the town, ordered to be euthanized, or the owner could be asked to use extra precautions such as building a fence on his property. The problem with these laws is that an owner is not held accountable for his actions. The worst punishment an irresponsible dog owner can expect is a stray dog fine. The animal may end up being euthanized but the person who allowed the dog to become vicious is free to get another dog and repeatedly perpetuate the problem.

Towns all over the country are struggling to come up with appropriate new ordinances to control the epidemic of vicious dogs. Breed specific vicious dog laws have so far been found to be unconstitutional. Captain White says the League is currently working to revise vicious dog laws in our area. These laws are developed based on an animal's behavior, not what it looks like. New regulations are designed to curtail ownership of vicious dogs by including mandatory $100,000 liability insurance for owners of vicious dogs, banning persons under eighteen years of age from owning a vicious dog, and most importantly, giving authorities more options in enforcing the laws.

In large part the problem of vicious dogs today is caused by irresponsible dog owners. Luckily there aren't as many of them as there are good and committed dog owners. Yet, we need to be aware of the people who are not taking their responsibilities seriously. In the interest of your personal safety, be careful of all strange dogs. In the hopes of reducing the vicious dog problem, beware of the dog owner.

What To Do When Approached By A Strange Dog:

- Do not turn away or try to run from the dog. (A dog's instinct is to chase.)
- Do not scream; do speak quietly and calmly and tell it to "go home."
- Keep your eye on the dog but do not stare into its eyes. (Dogs see that as a challenge to fight.)
- Do not throw anything or make any motions which resemble throwing a ball. (This could appear to the animal that you are about to strike it.)
- If you don't already have a stick in your hand, do not reach down to grab one. (This will put your face down closer to the animal.)
- Allow it to sniff you but do not make any sudden movements.
- If possible, wait until the dog leaves; otherwise wait until it seems distracted and slowly back away.
- Place your two fists under your chin with your elbows together. (This will allow you to protect your neck and chest. If necessary, you will also be able to shield your face.)
- If the dog does attack, try to feed it your jacket, purse, a branch or anything else available that will keep its mouth occupied.
- If you do get bitten, contact your local animal control officer immediately. (The animal will need to be quarantined to watch for signs of rabies and other diseases.)

Camper Jack Anderson adjusts "Pee Wee's" bridle under the watchful eye of Horse Case Counselor Amber Kawecki.

Diary of a Camp Counselor

by David Lyons

Buzzzzzz!!! The alarm clock rings, reading 7:50 a.m. on a cold summer morning. You roll out of the cozy bed you've been in for the last eight hours and stagger to the outdoor shower. After that eye-opening experience, it's a quick bite to eat and you're on your way!

It is now 8:30 a.m. and you've made it to the League's Animal Friends Summer Camp. First, there is a brief staff meeting discussing everything from a behavioral problem with a camper to the results of a staff golf outing held the previous night. The meeting ends, usually earlier than expected by an overly on-time camper, and then the day truly begins. The sounds of kisses goodbye and tales about how late one stayed up the night before start to fill the grounds again. The campers have arrived and they're ready for fun!

Flag raising officially kicks off the day, but the fun really begins with the activity that follows. Songs could easily be the highlight of the day. Titles like *The Doughnut Shop, The Animal Fair, Late Last Night, Six Pence and Three Rounds* start the day off with style. The songs are not what gets the campers going—it's the five counselors who are leading the songs and their goofy actions that campers enjoy the most. Whether it's crazy hats or just the silly faces the leaders provide, something is bound to get the folks laughing.

The next section of our day is what physically gets the children ready for camp. The activity period is in twenty-minute blocks where the campers play some sort of active, outdoor game. This proves to be an excellent warm-up for the main part of our day, the class period. Each week campers choose from a list of eleven classes. Group Adventures, Ocean Ecology, Small Pet Care, Farm Life and Nature Exploration are a few of the favorites. This is a great time for the counselors because it allows them to

Campers show team spirit as they volley at the net.

"Sophie" introduces her newest camper, "Georgia," born during the summer Olympics.

The staff of the Animal Friends Summer Camp would like to extend grateful thanks to our campers and their parents for their continued support. We look forward to seeing you next year!

Also, many thanks to the following folks who graciously entrusted their animals to us during the camp session. Your generosity helped our campers to enjoy a first-hand farm life experience. They learned to feed, bathe, groom, observe, and respect our animal friends.

Bristol Aggie High School
Cow: "Sophie" and her calf, "Georgia" who was born at camp!

Heifer Project International
Goats: "Chip" and "Delilah"

Arlene Perry
Chickens: "The Bridge Club"

Mrs. Alexander H. Bright
Pony: "Pee Wee"

Plimouth Plantation
Pigs: "Babe" and Gordy"
Lamb: "Bear"

Shea Moniz
Horse: "Shadow"
Pony: "Sugar"

Julie Souza
Horse: "Thomas"

teach in their areas of knowledge. Counselors put together a class curriculum for the summer and share the activities with those who have chosen to take their class. The class time is what camp is all about.

Following a short juice and sports break, we have a "Special Event." Guest speakers from the community speak on subjects ranging from talks about whales to "say no to drugs" speeches. These guests are always very informative and do an excellent job of getting the point across. Special Event gives way

Michaela Powers has her hands full with "Rosebud" as they smile for the camera during farm class.

to lunch and marks the end or beginning of the day for the small percentage of campers only there for half the day. After lunch and a short free-time period, the day continues with more class time. In the afternoon, we have hobby time. This is the time for campers to learn how to make clay animals and puppets, paint fabric, or plant flowers—the list goes on. The end of the day is marked by lowering the flag, singing "Day is Done" and that is it...until tomorrow!!!!

Assistant Director, Marianne Prior, leads the troops to her farm life class.

As I wrote this essay for the League, I really thought about the job we do as counselors and why we do it. It's easy to sit here and tell you how things run on a daily basis, but that is not camp. If it were camp, it wouldn't be fun for us or the campers. Camp is the questions that always seem to turn into stories at the end of special events. It's the looks on the campers' faces when their favorite counselor puts that crazy hat on during song time. It's the camper-to-counselor conversation about the fate of the Red Sox, a discussion held over peanut butter and jelly sandwiches. It's the smiles that always seem to pop up after a home run is hit off a counselor's pitch. These things are what bring us back each year. These are the things that make camp...camp.

Editor's note: David Lyons recently completed his first summer as a senior counselor at the League's Animal Friends Summer Camp. His leadership, team spirit, cooperation, and well-rounded curriculum as counselor for the Group Adventures class earned him the Florence Buttrick award. Mrs. Buttrick was the wife of former League President, Carlton Buttrick. The award is presented each season in her memory to a counselor who exemplifies humane nature and compassion.

1996 Animal Friends Pet Show

Taylor and Kim Field pose proudly with their Bichon, "Heidi," and Best of Show trophy. Behind the Fields are judges (left to right): Alan Cunningham, Sonia DiTommaso, former League President Carlton Buttrick, Marianne Prior, and Rebecca Hutchinson.

"Daisy" gets a proud hug from Matt Geary after placing second in both "Girl Dogs Over Six Months" and "Best Tail Wagger" categories. Daisy also placed third in Dog Obedience!

The sun was shining, there was a nice breeze, and over 60 pets and their owners were parading around Nye Field in North Falmouth. This could only mean one thing...it was time for the 1996 Animal Friends Pet Show!

Children ages six to fourteen are invited annually to take part in this parade of pets. Pet owners were judged not on the beauty of their pets, but on the care given to their animal friends. Judges asked what types of food pets receive, how often baths are given, how much exercise is provided, as well as updates on vaccinations. Much to the delight of the judges, a majority of participants could give insightful answers without having to look to mom or dad for hints. It was a perfect summer day on Cape Cod. Our animal contestants were on their best behavior—there were no skirmishes between the ranks and everyone (okay, pooper-scooper duty wasn't fun) enjoyed the festivities. All of the participants were winners, but we especially congratulate ribbon recipients. We would like to share some of them with you...

Elizabeth Klein and "Friden" celebrate placing third in the "Cats Over Six Months" category.

Krista Nadaff and her bird, "Champy," are proud as peacocks after taking first place in the "Miscellaneous Pets with Two Feet or Less" category.

Emily Rose and "Snowball" show off their respective ribbons: Emily with a pretty bow on the side, and Snowball with a third place ribbon in the "Miscellaneous Pets Under Four Feet" category.

Amber Woodruff has her hands full with her dogs, "Moccasin" and "Rico," who took first place in the "Boy Dogs Over Six Months" category.

Animal Fri

A special feature for our younger readers

Things That Go Bump in the Night

Bump, bump...squeak, squeak...Eric curled up tighter in his bed and pulled the sheets right up over himself. Images of a ten-foot gila monster with green skin and red bulgy eyes under his bed ran through his mind. "Oh I hope it goes away," Eric said to himself as the noise got louder and louder. THUMP!

Eric was so scared that he let out a scream. The light in his room came on: it was Eric's mom. "What is the problem, Eric?"

Eric peered out from the top of his bed sheets. "There's a monster in my room," Eric proclaimed.

"A monster, huh," said his mom. "I will check around." She looked under the bed, in the closet, and then she walked over to Eric's bureau. "Aha! I found the monster," she said. Back Eric went under his covers. "Eric," his mom said, "the monster is your hamster, Brutus, playing on his wheel." Eric came back out from under his covers again.

"You see, hamsters aren't like you or me," said his mom. "They are what we call nocturnal. This means that they sleep during the day and then are awake during the night. So this is why he is so noisy: it is his playtime. In fact, there are many animals that are nocturnal—they hunt for food at night."

"So what you're saying, Mom, is that there is no real monster in my room?" Eric asked.

"No, it is just you and Brutus," his mom said. "Goodnight, Eric." And the lights went off...

Kids, can you think of some other animals that are nocturnal? Here are some clues:

1. This animal is very wise. Who, who could it be?
2. Myth has it that this animal turns into Dracula.
3. You can hear them howling at the moon.
4. They have an eerie resemblance to Frankenstein's bride's hair color, but don't get too close, the odor will haunt you!
5. These masked trick-or-treaters will be knocking down your garbage cans to find some treats.
6. Catch them hanging by their tails from a tree, their ghost-like appearance may scare you!

ends

Dear Kory,

I am dressing up this Halloween as a sailor and I was going to dress up my dog, "Barkley," as my first mate—is this inhumane of me?

This brings up the concern of how an animal may react to being "accessorized." People often feel that dressing up their animals will make them look cute, but in the long run it may make animals feel uncomfortable because they are not accustomed to wearing clothes, glasses, hats, etc. Therefore, dressing them up may create some unneeded stress on the animals. Barkley would probably feel much better going out on Halloween in his own natural costume—his fur coat!

A Halloween reminder: with the haunting holiday on the way and lots of candies and chocolates being distributed, we must remember that these treats belong in our mouths (after our parents check the candy), not in the mouths of our animals! Chocolate contains a hormone which can actually be harmful and sometimes lethal to an animal if consumed.

To pet owners: Halloween can be a very stressful time for your pet. With many trick-or-treaters coming to your door, it may be wise to comfortably confine your pet to a room in the house that is out of the way from the noise and confusion of the holiday.

Hey Kids!

Do you have a question for Kory? Write in and if your question gets published in *Our fourfooted friends* magazine, you'll receive a free autographed picture of Kory, and an Animal Rescue League t-shirt. Send your questions to:

Questions for Kory
The Animal Rescue League of Boston, P.O. Box 265, Boston, MA 02117

Pets in the Picture Extra

When Mikey and his mom, Debby Vogel, visited the Dedham shelter to bring biscuits to the dogs, Mikey spotted "Moonball." Five-year-old Mikey didn't want the little hamster to be alone for Christmas so ten days prior to the holiday he adopted him. "Moonball is a wonderful pet and is still going strong," says Debby.

friend of the quarter

With a Little Help from Our Friends...

Thanks go to Mrs. Shea's grade five class in Barnstable, Massachusetts. After paying close attention throughout the school year to the Pet of the Week ads in the Cape Codder, the class thought it was time to help those four-footed friends who had not been adopted yet. The denoted money left over from a magazine drive to the Animal Rescue League of Boston. Two paws up to them! Too bad we don't have a photo...

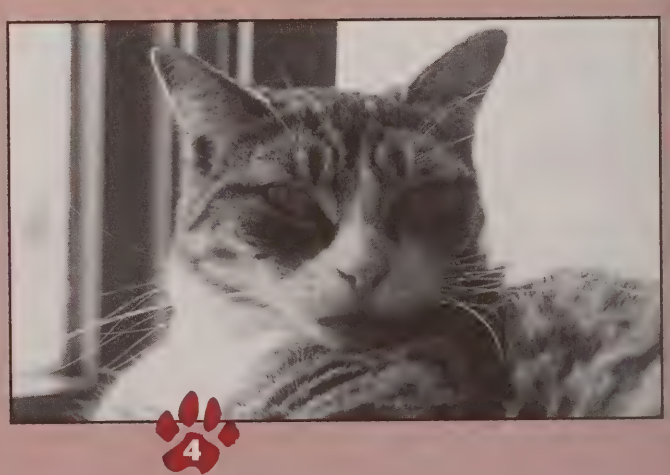
If you or someone you know has been performing good deeds on behalf of our animal friends, send us a photo and letter with all the details! If we publish your story, we'll send you a League t-shirt! **Send entries to:**

Friend of the Quarter
Animal Rescue League of Boston
P.O. Box 265, Boston, MA 02117

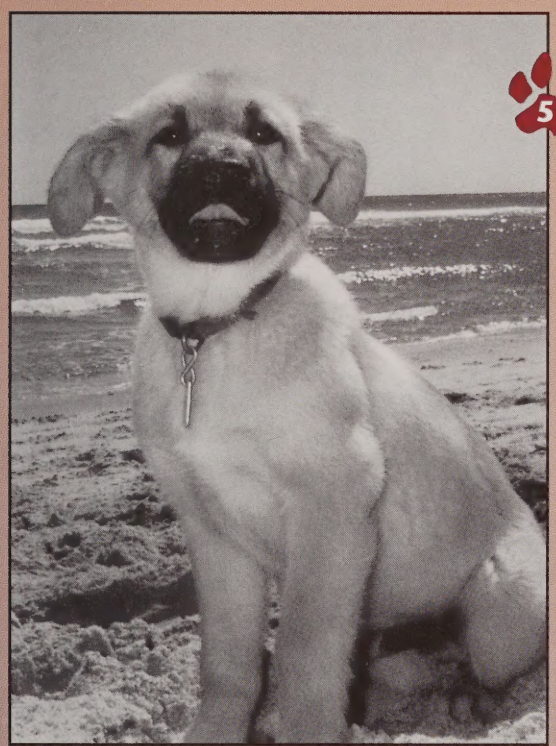
Participants must be twelve years of age or younger.

Answers
1.Owl 3.Wolf 5.Raccoon
2.Bat 4.Skunk 6.Opossum

Pets in the



Picture



1.

"Katie," adopted this June by Susan Lorch of Newton, is named after Katie Couric because "she's so perky and friendly." Susan writes that "Katie settled in very quickly and they're enjoying her very much."

2.

"Chaplin" lives with Julie McCusker of South Boston. "Chaplin is a wonderful character," says Julie. "He is very lively and playful. He has many funny tricks that he performs much like his namesake, Charlie Chaplin." (Notice the mustache!)

3.

"Smokie Mac" passed away recently. This beautiful dog was a loving companion to John MacLean of Medford for 14 years and will be greatly missed. "Smokie Mac" is buried at the League's Pine Ridge Animal Cemetery.

4.

"Miss Muffet" was adopted as a kitten from the Brewster shelter in January 1984. Miss Muffet is still doing well and living happily with Winona Weber of East Falmouth, who says she's a "big love."

5.

"Scraps" is a joy to all he meets," says Tom Wilcox of Orleans. Tom reports that "Scraps" is doing fine. He is obedient, playful and gentle.

6.

"Topper" is truly a wonderful dog," says Sally Bishop, who adopted him while he was recuperating at the Salem shelter after he had been hit by a bus in Lynn. "He is doing well and is very active now. He does a lot of "hanging out," interspersed with walks, food and lots of play with his neighborhood buddies."

Sit Up & Beg

The staff at the League has come up with the following "wish list" of items that would add to the safety, care or comfort of our animal friends. If you would like to donate any of these items, or contribute toward the purchase of a piece of equipment, please call (617) 426-9170.

8mm Camcorder with 3" LCD screen
Would be used to tape rescues for educational training purposes; $600

Sled for ice rescues
Approximately $3,000

Towels and blankets
Used to line cages for warmth after bathing

Hospital-type incubators
Used in shelters

Buchanan Handler
Safe and humane capture of aggressive animals; $350

Canoe
Used for shallow water rescues; new or used

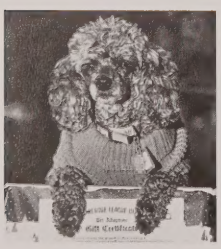
Thank You

We would like to gratefully thank the folks at Memorial Hospital, Worcester, MA, for their continuing supply of linens. Our animal friends appreciate the warmth and comfort you provide.

We would also like to thank Directors of Red Acre Farm, Inc., for their generous donation allowing the League to purchase a much needed Coda Net Launcher with remote control for humane capture of animals.

Many thanks to Dan Fusco at Material Installations, Inc. for the much needed and appreciated work stations.

Have you considered pet adoption certificates?



Fall has hardly begun and it's almost time to begin thinking about holiday shopping! Have you considered pet adoption certificates? Giving a pet a new home for the holidays may seem like a wonderful idea, but introducing a new puppy, kitten, or older animal into the household during the hectic holiday season can create a great deal of stress for our animal friends.

The League recommends that anyone adopting a pet during holiday seasons either plan to bring the animal home several days in advance of the holiday, or else let the entire family go and pick out their pet together during the post holiday vacation.

People are advised never to give animals as surprise gifts. Each year, many of these unfortunate victims of misdirected holiday spirit are returned to animal shelters, either because they failed to adjust to their new home surroundings, or because they were unwanted gifts in the first place.

In an effort to prevent these problems, the League and many other humane societies now offer pet adoption certificates which allow the gift recipients to choose their own pets. Gift certificates are available for all types of animals, including, hamsters, birds, gerbils, rabbits, as well as dogs and cats. Please call the League for more information.

Show Your Support!

Help spread awareness of the Animal Rescue League of Boston by wearing and using these new League items!

All of these promotional items may be purchased at League locations in Boston, Brewster, Dedham and Salem, or may be ordered by mail. Colors are blue and white.

Insulated Travel Mug
$ 3.50 ea.

Blue Ribbon Pin
$5.00 ea.

Fanny Pack
$ 7.00 ea.

Tote Bag
$12.00 ea.

T-Shirt
(S, M, L, XL)
$10.00 ea.

Sweatshirt
(S, M, L, XL)
$18.00 ea.

Sweatpants
(S, M, L, XL)
$18.00 ea.

Please send me:

Quantity	Item	Size	Cost
Total *(plus $3.00 for shipping and handling.)*			

NAME

STREET

CITY STATE ZIP

Enclosed is my check or money order in the amount of [$] made payable to the Animal Rescue League of Boston. (Please add $3.00 for shipping and handling for orders over $10.)

Mail to: Animal Rescue League of Boston
P.O. Box 265, Boston, MA 02117

Remember to Vote Yes on Question 1

Our fourfooted friends (US ISSN 0030-6851)

Animal Rescue League of Boston
P.O. Box 265 Boston, Massachusetts 02117

Address Correction Requested